

# SENATE WATCH

A summary of today's Senate actions; published daily when the Senate is in session.

12/3/03

## FINAL PASSAGE

## SB 193 (Patterson)

Senate Bill 193 would require the Secretary of State to develop a State-sponsored Ducks Unlimited fund-raising registration plate; and require service fees collected for the plate to be credited to the Michigan Chapter of Ducks Unlimited for the protection, enhancement, and acquisition of wetlands and associated uplands in this State.

Opposed: Secretary of State.

• SB 193 passed [RC 575: 35 yes, 2 no].

#### SB 601 (SWITALSKI)

Senate Bill 601 would allow a home rule city to adopt in an ordinance an international property maintenance code by reference to the code, without publishing it in full. Generally, building, fire, electrical, and other types of codes are highly technical and lengthy. While useful for those whose work demands that they know and follow the codes, publication of codes in their entirety is of little value to the general public. For people who need to know what is in the codes, or for those who are curious, copies of the complete codes must be available for inspection at the city clerk's office. Allowing a city to adopt a code by reference, and not publish the full document, is practical and saves printing costs. The bill simply would identify another code that could be adopted by reference.

Support: Michigan Municipal League, CIS.

• SB 601 passed [RC 576: 37 yes, 0 no].

HB 4454 (Hoogendyk) HB 4472 (LIPSEY)

The bills are part of a broader effort to encourage the world's largest pharmaceutical company to maintain its Michigan business activity and employment levels. By offering an SBT credit and, with local approval, a personal property tax exemption to the pharmaceutical company, the bills could encourage Pfizer to maintain its Michigan presence. That, in turn, would assist communities in Kalamazoo County, as well as Ann Arbor and Holland, in retaining their economic foothold in the pharmaceutical industry, and would help Pfizer to expand its Michigan operations.

Support: Kalamazoo Chamber of Commerce, Kalamazoo Mayor, and Southwest Michigan First.

<u>House Bill 4454</u> would amend the Michigan Economic Growth Authority Act (MEGA) to make the Pfizer pharmaceutical company eligible to apply for single business tax credits available under MEGA.

• HB 4454 passed with IE [RC 573: 36 yes, 0 no].

<u>House Bill 4472</u> would allow the governing body of a local tax collecting unit to adopt a resolution exempting from the collection of taxes all new personal property owned or leased by eligible pharmaceutical companies located in that local tax collecting unit. This would apply 18 months after bill took effect.

• HB 4472 passed with IE [RC 574: 37 yes, 0 no].

# THIRD READING

SB 834 (Bishop) SB 835 (George) SB 836 (Cassis)

Senate Bills 834-36 would help to foster economic development in Michigan, particularly in high-tech industries, by providing for the creation of a nonprofit corporation that would oversee a venture capital fund supported by private investment and by providing tax credits to businesses and individuals. Guaranteeing a rate of return or SBT credits to investors would provide an incentive for established Michigan businesses to invest in small, Michigan-based companies at an early stage of their development. The total credits paid to investors could not exceed \$30 million in any one year and \$150 million over the life of the fund. Cost incurred would be for years 2009-10.

## SB 834:

- Committee 1 (S-3) was defeated [no RC].
- Bishop 2 (S-4) was adopted [no RC].
- SB 834 was moved to 3<sup>rd</sup> Reading.

## SB 835:

• SB 835 was moved to 3<sup>rd</sup> Reading. No amendments.

#### SB 836:

• SB 836 was moved to 3<sup>rd</sup> Reading. No amendments.